

ATLANTA FIXTURES BUILDING (Ansley & Steele)
102-106 Pryor Street
Atlanta
Fulton County
Georgia

HABS NO.GA-1204

HABS
GA,
61-ATLA,
9.

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Department of the Interior
Southeast Region
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ATLANTA FIXTURES BUILDINGS

The "Atlanta Fixtures Buildings" is the recognized name used to identify the two adjoining buildings at 102 and 104-106 Pryor Street. Several historical architecture studies conducted for the Atlanta Urban Design Commission have used this name (Atlanta Urban Design Comm. 1978, 1981, and Darlene Roth & Associates 1984). When these surveys were conducted the buildings were owned by the Atlanta Fixture & Sales Co., Inc. The practice of using the name "Atlanta Fixtures Building" will be continued in this documentation. However, earlier historic names have been determined to be the Ansley and the Steele buildings.

Location:

The two structures known collectively as the Atlanta Fixtures Buildings are located at 102 and 104-106 Pryor Street, Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia. The properties are described in tax records as situated in the 14th District, Land Lot 77, city block 4. Additionally, these structures are located within the Underground Atlanta Historic District. This is the 14th Congressional District. USGS topographic map: Northwest Atlanta, Ga., photorevised 1973. The UTM coordinates are: Northing 37/37450 - Easting 7/41/730.

Present Owner:

City of Atlanta

Present Occupant:

At this time the buildings are vacant.

Significance:

The Atlanta Fixtures Buildings have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as individual structures. They are contributing elements of the Underground Atlanta Historic District and are among the oldest commercial structures in the city. Architecturally eclectic in style, the buildings exhibit Romanesque massing and Renaissance Revival details. They have generally been described as containing elements of the Renaissance Revival Style (Atlanta Urban Design Commission 1978:185; Roth and Associates 1984:40; Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Section-Atlanta Fixtures Buildings

file, and Franklin 1985: Historic Property Information Form). These brick buildings are excellent examples of the types of four and five-story commercial buildings which were prominent in the heart of downtown Atlanta in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. They occupy a site which is highly visible from a number of surrounding positions. The Atlanta Fixtures Buildings are among the few examples of late nineteenth century Renaissance Revival commercial buildings remaining within Underground Atlanta Historic District (National Register of Historic Places: July 24th, 1980).

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date(s) of Erection:

Construction of these two buildings began in June 1895. The structure at 102 Pryor Street appears to have been known as the Ansley Building and the structure at 104 - 106 Pryor Street was called the Steele Building. Both structures are mentioned in a report of the City Building Inspector, F. A. Pittman, to the City Council, dated December 31, 1895 (Annual Reports of the City of Atlanta 1895:88-89). A Party-Wall Agreement dated June 8, 1895 between A. B. Steele and W. D. Grant states that "A. B. Steele is now about to erect a brick building upon his said lot, extending back from Pryor Street one hundred and thirty three (133) feet... The foundation of the wall shall be concrete of a sufficient depth to sustain the wall. The basement wall shall be twenty eight inches thick, the first story wall twenty four inches thick, the second story wall twenty inches thick, the third story wall twenty inches thick, the fourth story wall sixteen inches thick and the fifth story wall sixteen inches thick" (Deed Book Volume 270, page 103-104). It is of interest to note that this party wall agreement was not recorded until September 8, 1909, probably because the building was sold at that time. Deed records and Deeds to Secure Debts corroborate this information (see below:Original and Subsequent Owners). Frank J. Ansley built the four-story building located at 102 Pryor Street (old number 30 South Pryor St.) and Aaron B. Steele built the five-story building at 104-106 Pryor Street (old numbers 32-34 South Pryor Street). Analysis of the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps supports a construction date between 1892 and 1899, since these structures do not appear on the 1892 map but are depicted on the 1899 map.

2. Architect:

The architect or architects are unknown at this time.

3. Original and Subsequent Owners:

References to the chain of title to the land upon which these two structures stand is in the Deed Records Room, Office of the Superior Court Clerk, Fulton County Courthouse, Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia.

The following information applies to the lot and building at 102 Pryor Street.

- 1892 Deed, May 23, 1892, recorded in Volume H-4, page 103. Hooper Alexander to A. B. Steele.
- 1892 Deed, April 14, 1894, recorded in Volume T-4, page 384. Aaron B. Steele to Frank J. Ansley.
- 1895 Deed to Secure Debt, May 3, 1895, recorded in Volume 109, page 527-532. F. J. Ansley to South Banking and Trust Co.
- 1896 Deed, April 6, 1896, recorded in Volume 115, page 138. Frank J. Ansley to Fred Wagener.
- 1897 Deed, September 23, 1897, recorded in Volume 126, page 98. Fred Wagener to T. B. Neal
- 1900 Deed, May 28, 1900, recorded in Volume 145, page 215. T. B. Neal to Elmer E. Pope and George E. Pope.
- 1900 Deed, July 10, 1900, recorded in Volume 151, page 203. George E. Pope to Benjamin S. Pope, one-half interest.
- 1900 Deed to Secure Debt, July 18, 1900, recorded in Volume 144, page 718. Benjamin S. Pope and Elmer E. Pope to Southern Banking and Trust Co.
- 1901 Deed, February 4, 1901, recorded in Volume 152, page 547-548. Elmer E. Pope to Benjamin S. Pope, one-half interest.
- 1904 Deed, November 17, 1904, recorded in Volume 201, page 3 & 4. Benjamin S. Pope to Elmer E. Pope.
- 1905 Deed, September 18, 1905, recorded in Volume 178, page 732. Benjamin S. Pope to Elmer E. Pope.
- 1905 Deed, September 23, 1905, recorded in Volume 222, page 28. E. E. Pope to Penn Mutual Life Insurance Co. (Mortgage Deed).

- 1909 Deed, September 6, 1909, recorded in Volume 270, page 136-137. Elmer E. Pope to Morton Richard Emmons.
- 1923 Deed, September 5, 1923, recorded in Volume 745, page 478-479. Ethelyn Emmons Johnson to Clark Howell, Jr.
- 1924 Deed, December 6, 1924, recorded in Volume 865, page 65. Clark Howell, Jr. to Robert L. Foreman.
- 1943 Deed, November 2, 1943, recorded in Volume 1287, page 280. R. L. Foreman, Jr. and Clark Foreman, executors of the estate of Robert L. Foreman to R.A.C. Realty.
- 1943 Deed, November 3, 1943, recorded in Volume 1958, page 715-716. R.A.C. Realty Co. to Ralph A. Sinkoe.
- 1954 Deed, February 19, 1954, recorded in Volume 2066, page 276-277. Executors of the estate of Ralph Sinkoe to Atlanta Fixture & Sales Co., Inc.
- 1954 Deed to Secure Debt, February 25, 1954, recorded in Volume 2084, page 536-538. The First National Bank of Atlanta and B. J. Sinkoe, executors of the estate of Ralph Sinkoe, to Atlanta Fixture & Sales Co., Inc.
- 1984 Deed, December 11, 1984, recorded in Volume 9297, page 365-370. Atlanta Fixture & Sales Co., Inc. to City of Atlanta.

The following deed information is for 104-106 Pryor Street:

- 1889 Deed, January 25, 1889, recorded in Volume K-3, page 378. Henry J. Lamar, Jr. to Mrs. C.I. Peck and Mrs. Annie Ellis Wyly.
- 1895 Party Wall Agreement, between W. D. Grant and A. B. Steele, June 8, 1895, recorded in Volume 270, page 103-104 (note this wall agreement precedes deed transferring the land).
- 1896 Deed, August 4, 1896, recorded in Volume 116, page 258. Mrs. C. I. Peck and Mrs. Annie Ellis Wyly to A. B. Steele.
- 1899 Mortgage Deed, August 9, 1899, recorded in Volume 140, page 483-486. A. B. Steele to Travelers Insurance Company.

- 1905 Deed, September 12, 1905, recorded in Volume 208, page 412. A. B. Steele to J. W. Pope, North one-half of the building.
- 1908 Deed to Secure Debt, February (?), 1908, recorded in Volume 237, page 305. J. W. Pope to G. V. Gress.
- 1909 Deed, July 8, 1909, recorded in Volume 266, page 407-408. J. W. Pope to Thomas J. Avery, North one-half of the building.
- 1909 Mortgage Deed, September 14, 1909, recorded in Volume 218, page 270. A. B. Steele to the Equitable Life Assurance Society, South one-half of the building.
- 1909 Deed to Secure Debt, november 11, 1909, recorded in Volume 228, page 446-449. A. B. Steele to Lowry National Bank, South one-half of the building.
- 1910 Deed, November 22, 1910, recorded in Volume 289, page 317-319. A. B. Steele to Thomas J. Avery.
- 1929 Deed, December 19, 1929, recorded in Volume 1313, page 17. Ida L. Avery to Mrs. Edna Avery Jones, her daughter.
- 1932 Deed, December 23, 1932, recorded in Volume 1462, page 431. Mrs. Edna Avery Jones to Ben F. May.
- 1933 Deed, June 30, 1933, recorded in Volume 1466, page 570/ Ben F. May to Nunnally and McCrea Co.
- 1936 Deed, June 10, 1936, recorded in Volume 1630, page 295. Nunnally and McCrea Co. to Thomas H. McCrea Co.
- 1936 Mortgage Deed, June 11, 1936, recorded in Volume 1585, page 586-589. T. H. McCrea to New England Mutual Life Insurance Co.
- 1944 Deed to Secure Debt, July 15, 1944, recorded in Volume 1961, page 24-25. Thomas H. McCrea to John H. Hines.
- 1944 Deed, September 6, 1944, recorded in Volume 1989, page 74. Thomas H. McCrea and John Hines to Dangler & Hines, Inc.
- 1945 Mortgatge Deed, July 5, 1945, recorded in Volume 1911, page 81-84. Dangler & Hines, Inc. to New England Mutual Life Insurance Co.

- 1945 Deed, July 25, 1945, recorded in Volume 2054, page 188. Dangler & Hines, Inc. to Ralph Sinkoe.
- 1945 Deed to Secure Debt, July 25, 1945, recorded in Volume 1961, page 80. Ralph Sinkoe to Dangler & Hines, Inc.
- 1956 Agreement, May 31, 1956, recorded in Volume 3123, page 186-201. Trustees under the Will of Ralph Sinkoe to Fannie Berman, Sol Stein, Ethel Kern, S. J. Sinkoe, Irene Klein, and Marie Jacobstein, descendants of Ralph and Rachel Sinkoe.
- 1984 Deed, December 11, 1984, recorded in Volume 9297, page 365-370. Fannie Berman, Sol Stein, Ethel Kern, Irene Klein, and Marie Jacobstein to City of Atlanta.

4. Builder, contractor, suppliers:

No names of builders, contractors, or suppliers have been located. However, the Atlanta City Directory for 1897 (data collected in 1896) shows that Frank Wagener, a contractor, and Frank W. Reimann, a civil engineer, were located at number 30 1/2 Pryor Street.

5. Original plans and construction:

No original plans, construction drawings, or information were located.

6. Alterations and additions:

A building permit dated June 21, 1922 for 30 S. Pryor Street states that fire damage was to be repaired at the building owned by Mrs. Marshall C. Johnson. Shelverton Construction Company was contracted to make the repairs which included tar and gravel to roof. Estimated cost of the repairs was \$16,000.

Building permit number 2068, dated August 30, 1968, for the Atlanta Fixture & Sales Co., Inc. states that a mezzanine floor and new offices are to be constructed on the first floor of the building at 104 Pryor Street. The items checked on the permit form include: alter, ordinary masonry, office, and warehouse.

It is possible that building permits dating from 1968 to 1978 may yield data on the concrete block additions to the rear of the Atlanta Fixtures Buildings.

B. Historical Context:

Historians have referred to the period from 1880 to 1929 as the heyday of the Heart of Atlanta. By the 1880s this area was the vital center of government and commercial activities. By 1899 Pryor Street was the location of a variety of business types and civic activities. This street was the locale of lawyers offices in the old Kiser Bldg (demolished), the Chamber of Commerce-City Hall Building (demolished), the Fulton County Courthouse, livery stables, hotels, and other structures (Saunders 1889:79).

In the 1890s downtown Atlanta was distinguished by the "railroad gulch", a product of the major railroad facilities area in the area and multiple tracks which divided the city and caused traffic problems. City leaders proposed a viaduct plan and later the Bleckley Plaza plan to correct this situation (Bleckley Family Papers, Atlanta Historical Society Collection). Viaduct construction during the early twentieth century has substantially altered the character of this central core area of Atlanta.

The Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of 1892 and 1899 provide an excellent illustration of the past types of structures and commercial uses surrounding the Atlanta Fixtures Buildings. The 1892 Sanborn map shows a livery stable and shed at the location which would become the site of the Atlanta Fixtures Buildings. These structures were located on city lots 1, 2 and 3 of the division of the estate of Levi Baker (Deed Volume 00, page 683). Aaron B. Steele purchased the shed site from Hooper Alexander in May of 1892 for \$15,600. In the same year, Steele sold the lot to Frank J. Ansley for \$33,750. This large increase in the value may indicate the presence of improvements. However, no documentation was found which revealed the nature of these possible improvements. It may be that land values had increased in the busy commercial and civic district of the city. Ansley used the property to secure a debt in May of 1895. That transaction may represent acquisition of capital to construct the four story brick building which was apparently begun in June of 1895 (City of Atlanta Annual Report 1895:88-89).

Frank J. Ansley sold his property to Fred Wagener for \$26,500 in April of 1896. The conveyance was subject to a debt of \$20,000 which Ansley owed to the Southern Banking and Trust Co; a debt which was assumed as part of the purchase price. The deed does not mention a structure but the dimensions of the lot were described as fronting 25 feet on the east side of Pryor Street and being 185 feet in depth (Deed Volume 115:138).

The adjoining lots, numbers 2 and 3 were purchased by Aaron B. Steele from Mrs. Peck and Mrs. Wylie in 1896. Aaron B.

Steele was a lumber dealer and one of the most prominent and wealthy businessmen in Atlanta before the turn of the century (Morgan 1943:160 and Garrett 1954 II:180).

It has previously been noted that Steele had entered into a party wall agreement with William D. Grant in June of 1895. Steele must have had a previous contract with Mrs. Peck and Mrs. Wyly to purchase lots 2 and 3 prior to the actual deed of conveyance. Steele purchased the premises for \$45,000. This sum suggests either that the livery stable was extant at that time or that land values had greatly increased. The latter may be true since several large buildings were constructed during this time period (see City of Atlanta Annual Report 1895:88-89). The agreement, discussed in the Date of Erection section of this document, records a date for the beginning of the construction of the 104-106 Pryor Street section of the present Atlanta Fixtures Buildings. The agreement specified dimensions and materials for a basement and five story wall to be built. This is apparently the south wall of the Atlanta Fixtures Building.

The date of initial construction is confirmed by Pittman, the newly appointed city building inspector, who reported in December of 1895 that construction of the Steele building had begun in June 1895. He also mentions that the Ansley building had also started in June 1895 (City of Atlanta Annual Reports 1895:88-89).

The uses of the Atlanta Fixtures Buildings (the Ansley and Steele Buildings) have been traced through the use of old city directories, Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, deeds, and the various resources available at the Atlanta Historical Society. Ownership of the two buildings has been traced through the deed records and a complete chain of title has been established. It was not until the 1940s that both buildings were owned by the same person. Based upon examination of the city directories we know the names of the businesses which occupied the buildings from 1897 (data from 1896) through the present.

For example, according to the Atlanta City Directory for 1897 (data is from the previous year, 1896), the occupants of the buildings were:

No. 30 S. Pryor Street

Gershon Bros. & Rosenfeld, wholesalers of wooden
and willowware.

No. 30 1/2 S. Pryor Street

Atlanta Telephone Co.

Georgia Bicycle Co. (bicycle repairs)

* Frank Wagener, contractor

Frank M. Reiman, civil engineer

No. 32 S. Pryor Street

Montag Brothers Southern Tablet Co. Mfg. stationers and paper dealers.

* (Fred Wagener was the owner of the property at 30 Pryor Street from April 6, 1896 to September 23, 1897. He sold the property to T. B. Neal on September 23, 1897).

Information regarding subsequent tenants of the two buildings is readily available in the city directories which are in the collection of the Atlanta Historical Society. Some of the tenants were: the Gershon Brothers and Rosenfeld, the Atlanta Standard Telephone Co., F. Wagner and I. H. Gorenflo (contractors), and T. A. Aber (civil engineer). It should be noted that Wagener and Gorenflo maintained offices at Broad St; therefore, it is speculated that portions of the upper floors may have been used as living quarters.

According to the 1899 city directory, the Montag Brothers Co., stationers, was located at 32 S. Pryor Street and the Bass Dry Goods Co. was at 34 S. Pryor St. The lower level of 30 S. Pryor Street was vacant and the upper floor tenants were F. M. Baker, a machinist, and T. A. Aber, a civil engineer. The buildings are illustrated on the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of 1899.

The 1899 Sanborn Fire Insurance map shows a one story structure attached to the rear of the building at 30 S. Pryor St. It also shows two skylights in the building. The structure at 32-34 S. Pryor Street, a five story brick building, is apparently divided by a center wall. "Mfrs. of Stationery" is depicted on the north half of the building and "Bass Dry Goods Co. Whol.s" is drawn in the south half of the building. There is a large square open area at the rear of 32-34 S. Pryor St.

Substantial changes had occurred by 1911. The city government activities were moved from the old Chamber of Commerce building. The auction of this building is illustrated in the Lane Brothers photograph of 1910 (see Supplemental Material, exhibit one). The Church of Christ on Hunter Street and adjacent domestic structures were combined and listed as a hall and offices on the Sanborn Fire Insurance map of 1911. A livery stable and restaurant were located south of the Atlanta Fixtures Building (occupied by the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.).

While the names of tenants and owners vary over the years, a pattern of wholesale merchant activity is predominant. Some of the tenants who were located at these addresses for longer periods of time were the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.,

Samuels Solomon, Anderson Hardware, Ragan Malone Dry Goods Company (wholesaler), Atlanta Barbers Supply Co., and Horch Brothers Co. (wholesale dry goods).

City leaders expected that the erection of the viaducts would bring new business houses to Ivy, Pryor, and Central Avenue (Belser 1927:9). After the Pryor Street and Central Avenue viaducts were opened in 1929 there must have been changes to the facades in order to construct new entrances to the buildings at the new street floor levels. It was at this time that the street numbers were changed. Number 30 S. Pryor Street becomes 102 S. Pryor Street and 32-34 became 104-106 S. Pryor Street. Some of the tenants in the 1930s included: the Kornegay Furniture Co., the Samuel Investment Co., and Meador-Pasley Co.

It was in 1936 that the Atlanta Fixture & Sales Co., Inc. is first listed in the city directory as a tenant at 104-106 Pryor Street. The building at 102 Pryor Street was purchased by Ralph Sinkoe, the president of the Atlanta Fixture & Sales Co., Inc., in 1943. He purchased the second structure at 104-106 Pryor Street in 1945.

Land use and activity patterns changed after World War II. The central city or "Heart Of Atlanta" area was effected by the general northern development of commercial activities along the Peachtree Street corridor. These post World War II developments nearly resulted in the abandonment of the older Heart of Atlanta area. Nevertheless, wholesalers and jobbers such as the Atlanta Fixtures & Sales Co., Inc. maintained their downtown location. Over the years, old brick structures have either been demolished or destroyed by fire and replaced by parking lots. Few new structures have been built.

The Atlanta Fixture & Sales Co., Inc. is a supplier of restaurant equipment and a designer of restaurant interiors. They occupied the two buildings during the time of the development of the Underground Atlanta entertainment complex in the late 1960s - 1970s. The two lowest levels of each building were leased out to restaurants and lounges from the late 1960s to 1976. The Old Carriage House Inc. leased the basement level of the 104 Pryor Street. The lower Pryor Street level at that address was occupied by the lounge known as Down Under. The Golden Dolphin restaurant was located in the basement level of the 102 Pryor Street building, while the Acropolis was located at the lower Pryor Street level (Underground Atlanta). Mr. Sol Stein, treasurer of the Atlanta Fixture & Sales Co., Inc., recalls that his company supplied equipment to the restaurants in Underground Atlanta (telephone interview Stein to Mitchell, November 13, 1985).

The Atlanta Fixture & Sales, Co., Inc. moved from the premises in 1976. In 1980 the National Register nomination form for the Underground Atlanta Historic District was prepared, and the Atlanta Fixtures Buildings were considered an integral element of the historic district. A newspaper advertisement from January 26, 1981 contains photographs of the front and rear of the buildings, and the buildings were offered for sale at \$425,000. The advertisement describes the buildings as perfect for legal offices, warehousing, or any retail or wholesale business. "The historic architectural style of these structures makes them perfect for renovation" (Atlanta Journal, Jan. 26, 1981, page 2).

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION:

A. General Statement:

The measured drawings and photographs accompanying this written document illustrate the architectural qualities of the Atlanta Fixtures Buildings. Since the construction of the Pryor Street viaduct in 1928-1929 raised the street level, the old facades are now on lower Pryor Street, the "Underground Atlanta" level below the present day Pryor Street viaduct. A photographically reproduced copy of microfilm record 25152 is included as part of the supplemental material (exhibit two). The original drawing, located in the records of the City of Atlanta Bureau of Streets, depicts the original facades as they appeared in 1928, before the construction of the viaduct.

The 102 Pryor Street building has three stories above present day Pryor Street and two stories in the Underground Atlanta level. The 104 Pryor Street building has four stories above Pryor Street and two stories (the original first floor and basement) in the Underground Atlanta level.

1. Architectural Character:

The four story building (102 Pryor Street) features a wood framed arched central bay window at the Pryor Street viaduct level. Carved stone trim accents the windows on the Pryor Street facade. The original street level facade is below the present level of Pryor Street. Drawings prepared in the Office of the Chief of Construction, City of Atlanta, in 1928 delineated the architectural details of the facades of the structures on the east side of Pryor Street to be impacted by the construction of the Pryor Street viaduct (City of Atlanta, Bureau of Streets Microfilm 25152). At the present time the facades at the "Underground Atlanta" level bear little resemblance to their former appearance, having been altered in the late 1960s (National Register of Historic Places inventory and nomination form for the Underground Atlanta Historic District 1980:9).

The five-story brick building (104-106 Pryor Street) shares elements of the Renaissance Revivial and Romanesque styles. It features paired arched windows two-stories high, rough cut or rusticated granite piers and a cast iron facade at the Pryor Street viaduct level. Elegant terra cotta panels enhance the two-story arched windows of the central bays. Two circular "eye" windows highlight the upper floor facade. It is believed that the existing cast iron facade was raised to the present level after the construction of the Pryor Street viaduct c.1928-1929 (Micael Lambdin 1985, personal communication). The tops of the buildings are marked with overhung cornices and dentate molding. A band of Greek key ornament lies beneath the cornice of the structure at 104-106 Pryor Street.(Darlene Roth & Associates, Inc. 1984:40). The former first floor of this building lies at the lower Pryor Street or "Underground Atlanta" level. The facades at the underground level have been drastically altered by a fake facade related to restaurant and lounge use in the 1970s.

2. Condition of fabric:

The fabric is fair; some structural settling was observed.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions:

The building at 102 Pryor Street measures 25' x 133' at the present day upper or viaduct level of Pryor Street. The two lower levels measure 25' x 188.9' due to a rear addition to the restaurant/lounge levels.

Dimensions of the 104-106 Pryor Street are 48' x 133' at the present day upper Pryor Street level. At the lower levels the building measures 48' x 183'.

2. Foundations:

unknown

3. Walls:

brick bearing

4. Structural system, framing:

The structural system consists of exterior brick bearing walls with interior wood post and beam construction.

5. Porches, stoops, balconies, bulkheads:

There is a steel fire escape staircase attached to the front facade.

6. Chimneys:

There are two interior brick flues on the rear wall of the 104-106 Pryor Street building.

Four interior brick flues are located on the party wall of the 102 Pryor Street building.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors:

The 104-106 Pryor Street building has an aluminum store front and the 102 Pryor Street building has wood sash doors with single glass lights.

B. Roof:

a. Shape, covering:

Both roofs are flat, built up, sloping to the rear.

b. Cornice, eaves:

Both buildings have metal cornices.

c. Dormers, cupolas, towers:

N/A

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

Accompanying photographs and sketch plans illustrate the floor plans.

2. Stairways:

Wooden stairs are located in each building.

3. Flooring:

Flooring materials are wood with concrete on the basement floor.

4. Wall and ceiling finish:

Ceiling treatments vary from suspended acoustical tiles to plaster and beaded wood.

5. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors:

N/A

b. Windows:

N/A

6. Decorative features and trim:

Turned wood posts decorated the stair railing in the 104 Pryor Street building.

7. Hardware:

N/A

8. Mechanical equipment:

a. Heating, air conditioning, ventilation:

The heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system is gas.

b. Lighting:

Flourescent and incandescent lighting fixtures are present.

c. Plumbing:

Plumbing located on the first three levels of each building. More recent fixtures in the lower levels used as restrooms for the former restaurants and lounges.

d. Elevators:

There is a freight elevator in the 102 Pryor Street building which is depicted in a photograph and in the floor plan sketches. Two elevators, one for passengers and one for freight are located in the 104-106 Pryor Street building.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation:

N/A

2. Historic landscape design:

N/A

3. Outbuildings:

N/A

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

A. Original Architectural Drawings:

None located.

B. Early Views:

Photographs illustrating the streetscape and general skyline including views of structures on Pryor Street are located in the Visual Arts Collection of the Atlanta Historical Society.

A Lane Brothers photograph c. 1910 shows a view of the east side of Pryor Street at the corner of Hunter St (now Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive). A photo-mechanical copy of the Lane photograph is contained in the supplemental material as exhibit three. The buildings known today as the Atlanta Fixtures Buildings are depicted on the left side of the photograph. They were occupied by the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. at that time. The Palace Livery Stable was located to the south toward Hunter Street. A small cafe was located between the former Chamber of Commerce-City Hall Building and the livery stable. This photograph shows the portions of the facades of the Atlanta Fixtures Buildings which are now below the Pryor Street viaduct level in Underground Atlanta. The building on the right side of the photograph is the former Chamber of Commerce/City Hall building.

C. Interviews:

The Atlanta Fixtures Building was discussed with the followings individuals: Mr. Sol Stein, treasurer of the Atlanta Fixture & Sales Co., Inc.; Gail Timmis, Executive Director of the Atlanta Urban Design Commission; and Mr. Franklin Garrett and Mr. Rooney of the Atlanta Historical Society. Mr. Fed Thomas, Bureau of Streets & Roads, City of Atlanta, provided photomechanical copies of microfilm of drawings on the West Side of Pryor Street related to the construction of the Pryor Street viaducts (City of Atlanta Bureau of Streets, Microfilm No. 25152). Mr. L. Cecil Turner, City of Atlanta Law Department, also supplied valuable information on the historical development of Underground Atlanta.

D. Bibliography:

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Department of Engineering, Bureau of Highways and Streets, Microfilm number 25152 plans of the Pryor Street Viaduct c.1928.

Building Permit Applications and Building Plans temporarily located in Records Management Division, microfilm section.

Building Permit Applications. 1900-1963. City records in the Atlanta Historical Society Collection.

Fulton County

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E. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated:

The Fulton County Tax Digests at the Georgia Department of Archives and History have not been examined. Microfilm of the various Atlanta newspapers have not been examined. Also, genealogical files for the various owners of the structures have not been examined. It is possible that some family papers may exist which would contain information on business affairs and possibly the name of the architect. Another source not examined is building permits dating from 1968 to 1978 which may yield information related to the recent concrete block additions to the rear of the Atlanta Fixtures Buildings.

A source of visual records which will be available to researchers in the future is the Lane Brothers Photographic Collection, recently acquired by the Southern Labor Archives at Georgia State University.

F. Supplemental Material:

Exhibits include: 1) Lane Brothers photograph from the Atlanta Historical Society Collection; 2) City of Atlanta microfilm record 25152; 3) newspaper advertisement from 1981; and 4) letter from Shirley Clarke Franklin, Environmental Certification Officer, City of Atlanta, to Dr. Elizabeth A. Lyon, State Historic Preservation Officer dated July 2, 1985 and containing a historic properties inventory form; 5) a copy of a bibliography contained in

Archaeological Reconnaissance In Underground Atlanta:
ATL-UDAG-84-1-9, prepared by Garrow & Associates, Inc.,
1985; and 6) a detail from Atlanta:Downtown/Midtown map,
Georgia State University, Department of Geography,
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PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The demolition of the Atlanta Fixtures Buildings is scheduled as part of the Underground Atlanta Redevelopment project. The City of Atlanta owns the property and the Underground Festival Development Company plans to build a parking garage on the site. Garrow & Associates, Inc., a cultural resource management firm, was contracted to prepare the HABS documentation in accordance with the standards of the Historic American Buildings Survey for compliance with Executive Order 11593, Section 2 (c).

Employees of Garrow & Associates who participated in the preparation of this documentation include: Project Managers Patrick H. Garrow and J. W. Joseph; Cultural Historian, Ruthanne L. Mitchell, who served as the principal author for the historic narrative; and Mr. Dick Bryant, who photographed the various views of the Atlanta Fixtures Building as required. The measured drawings were prepared by Michael Lambdin and Charlotte Allen of Richard Rothman & Associates, an architectural firm located in Atlanta. Joseph G. Martin, President of Underground Festival Development Company, served as the contracting officer.